

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 05 February 2001
Name of applicant/court: Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: Penthouse September 2000
Other Known Titles: US Penthouse September 2000
Director: Not Applicable
Producer: Not Applicable
Publisher: Bob Guccione
Editor: Bob Guccione
Format: Magazine
Country of Origin: USA
Language: English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:
Trailers: Running time:
Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine *Penthouse September 2000* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The magazine has been classified as objectionable because of the degree to which and the manner in which it depicts degrading, dehumanising and demeaning sexual conduct, and the extent to which it degrades, dehumanises and demeans women in general.

The magazine *Penthouse* is a publication that contains articles, jokes, interviews, letters and advertisements that cover a wide variety of topics. In addition to these components there are images and text of a sexually explicit nature designed primarily for the titillation of the male target audience. Some elements of the publication, in particular the Dahmane photographic essay, contain depictions of highly degrading, dehumanising and demeaning sexual conduct. The essay has a sexual interpretation that outweighs the 'artistic' intention described in the photo captions and is degrading, dehumanising and demeaning of women in general. The availability of the magazine is therefore likely to be injurious to the public good. While the classification is a severe restriction on the rights and freedoms set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, it is a reasonable and demonstrably justified restriction in this instance to prevent injury to the public good.

OFLC Ref: 1997